



Congressman
Xavier Becerra
Representing California's 31st District
Newsletters



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SURVEY RESULTS

1) Are you better off today than you were at this time in 2000?

Yes	30.8%
No	67.7%
Same	1.5%

Among those who answered yes, the reasons they believed the better off were as follows:

Higher income
Better/stable/rewarding employment
Lower taxes
Increased health coverage
Better educational/training opportunities for you or your children
Business has prospered/grown
Other (retirement, stock value increased, better personal lii
better reps in DC)

Notes:

- Respondents who indicated employment as a reason higher income
- Almost all respondents who indicated that they had lc mentioned that they also received higher income
- Everyone that cited other reasons also indicated that a higher income and/or better employment

Among those who answered no, the reasons they believed they worse off were:

Income loss
Lack of/unstable/unrewarding employment
Cost of educational/training for you or your children too hig
Higher taxes
Business has deteriorated/downsized
Other

Other reasons cited were:

- Loss of constitutional rights and social crises
- Political pay-offs, tax cuts for the wealthy, LAUSD bu
- Imperialism
- Increasing costs and war
- Increasing insurance premiums and rent
- Loss of investment
- Worse healthcare system than before
- Illegal immigration

2) *The current federal minimum wage stands at \$5.15 an hour (\$10,7*
Do you believe it should be:

Less	1.25%
Same	10.75%
More	81.5%
No answer	7.5%

for those who answered more, the breakdown of preferred minimum w
as follows:

\$5.16 - 6.00	6.75%
\$6.01 - 7.00	21.8%
\$7.01 - 8.00	25%
\$8.01 - 9.00	11.4%
\$9.01 - 10.00	28.2%
\$10.01 - 15.00	6.75%
above \$15.00	0.1%

Notes:

Every person who wanted to lower the minimum wage or h
 remain the same was better off this past year.

3) *Congress just passed, and the president just signed, an \$87 billion*
for reconstruction and military efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. What a
feelings on this?

Should not have passed in the first place
 Money (at least part of it) should be appropriated as a loan
 Expenditure should be paid for to avoid adding to existing
 budget deficit
 Should have been less
 Should have been more

Comments:

- National security should come first
- Spend more for education and other public services r
 using it as foreign aid
- Should not have entered into war and invaded the co

first place

- \$87 billion should be spent honestly (Halliburton poor
- There should be more accountability for government
- Appropriations package should be billed to Bush and Cheney

4) Do you believe that the President possessed enough evidence to make the decision to go to war in Iraq?

Yes	15%
No	85%

Comments:

- Bush wanted to go to Iraq and Congress gave him permission. Now they're complaining
- It's all about oil
- Why hasn't Bush been impeached for providing fraudulent evidence?

5) What should be the nation's current policy toward Iraq? (check all that apply)

Work to form an international coalition...
 Bring all the troops home
 Stay the course
 Deploy more troops

Comments:

- We should stay the course only if our actions lead to Iraqi autonomy
- Bring all the reserves home

6) Congress just passed, and the president just signed, a bill banning a procedure that is commonly referred to as "partial birth abortion". Do you support this decision?

Yes	30%
No	66%
No answer	4%

Generally, most people who answered "no" indicated that the decision should either be between the patient and doctor. Most reiterated that a woman's choice and abortion should not be an issue for the federal government to regulate/discuss.

7) Corporate governance and investment practices have been in the news a lot in the past few years. Recent reports have detailed the substantial salaries of corporate CEOs and senior executives. What do you feel the average executive should be paid compared to the average worker?

10 times the salary	31.
Whatever company is willing to pay	23.
50 times the salary	9.8
100 times the salary	6.5
300 times the salary	1%
No answer:	8.3
Other:	19.
5 times or less	
between 6 - 10 times	
same as current salaries	

Other replies/comments were:

- Based on merit and how the company is doing
- \$25 - 40 per hour
- no more than 75k - 1 million a year
- should be up to the employees to decide
- the federal government has no business regulating C
- 25 times the average salary
- they should make minimum wage for a year
- as long as they don't reduce shareholders' return, cui salaries ok
- they shouldn't get stock options
- should be a percentage of the profit
- whatever the market will bear